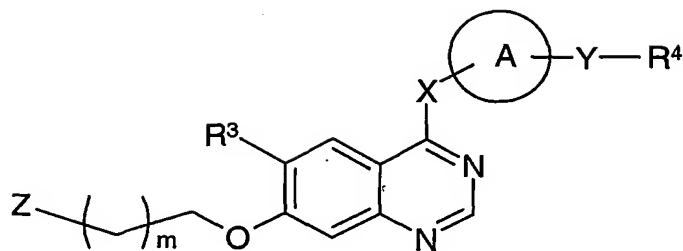


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CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



5

formula (I)

wherein **A** is 6-membered heteroaryl containing a nitrogen atom and optionally containing one or two further nitrogen atoms;

X is O, S, S(O), S(O)₂ or NR¹⁴;

10 **m** is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

Y is a group selected from O, NR⁵CO, CONR⁵, CR⁶R⁷CONR⁵ and CR⁶R⁷NR⁵;

Z is a group selected from -NR¹R², phosphonooxy, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl which C₃₋₆cycloalkyl is substituted by phosphonooxy or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy, and a 4- to 7-membered ring linked via a carbon atom containing a nitrogen atom and optionally containing
15 a further nitrogen atom, which ring may be saturated, unsaturated or partially saturated which ring is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by phosphonooxy or C₁₋₄alkyl (substituted by phosphonooxy) and which ring is optionally further substituted on carbon or nitrogen by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkyl groups;

R¹ is a group selected from -COR⁸, -CONR⁸R⁹ and C₁₋₆alkyl which C₁₋₆alkyl is substituted
20 by phosphonooxy and optionally further substituted by 1 or 2 halo or methoxy groups;
R² is a group selected from hydrogen, -COR¹⁰, -CONR¹⁰R¹¹ and C₁₋₆alkyl which C₁₋₆alkyl is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkoxy groups, -S(O)_pR¹¹ (where p is 0, 1 or 2) or phosphonooxy, or **R²** is a group selected from C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkylC₁₋₄alkyl;

25 or **R¹** and **R²** together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 4- to 7- membered ring optionally containing a further nitrogen atom which ring may be saturated, unsaturated or partially saturated which ring is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by a group selected from phosphonooxy and C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy or -NR⁸R⁹, and which ring is optionally further substituted on carbon or nitrogen by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkyl groups;

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R^3 is a group selected from hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-OR^{12}$, $-CHR^{12}R^{13}$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)R^{12}$, $-NR^{12}C(O)R^{13}$, $-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$, $-NR^{12}SO_2R^{13}$ and $-NR^{12}R^{13}$;

R^4 is hydrogen or a group selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl and aryl C_{1-4} alkyl which group is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halo, methyl, ethyl, cyclopropyl and ethynyl;

R^5 is a group selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, hydroxy and C_{1-4} alkoxy;

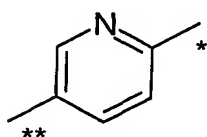
R^8 is C_{1-4} alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy and optionally further substituted by 1 or 2 halo or methoxy groups;

R^9 is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl;

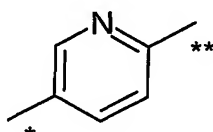
R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl which C_{1-4} alkyl is optionally substituted by halo, C_{1-4} alkoxy, $S(O)_q$ (where q is 0, 1 or 2) or phosphonooxy;

R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl and heterocyclyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

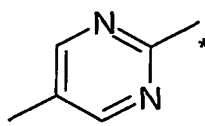
2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is a group of formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



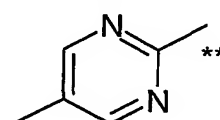
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

where * is the point of attachment to the X group of formula (I) and ** is the point of attachment to the Y group of formula (I); or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. A compound according to claim 2 wherein A is a group of formula (b) or (d) as defined in claim 2; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compounds according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein X is NH; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein Z is a group selected from $-NR^1R^2$, phosphonooxy, cyclopropyl which cyclopropyl is substituted by C_1 .

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4alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy, and a piperidine or piperazine ring linked via carbon which ring is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by phosphonooxy or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5 6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R¹ is C₁₋₅alkyl substituted by phosphonooxy and R² is hydrogen, C₁₋₅alkyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein R¹ and R² together with
10 the nitrogen to which they are attached form a piperidine, pyrrolidine or piperazine ring which is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by a group selected from phosphonooxy, phosphonooxymethyl and 2-phosphonooxyethyl and where the ring is optionally further substituted on carbon or nitrogen by 1 or 2 methyl.

15 8. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R³ is methoxy or hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R⁴ is phenyl or benzyl optionally substituted by 1 or 2 of fluoro or chloro; or a pharmaceutically acceptable
20 salt thereof.

10. A compound selected from:

3-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzyl)oxy]pyridin-3-yl} amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)amino]-3-methylbutyl dihydrogen phosphate;

25 3-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl} amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)amino]-3-methylbutyl dihydrogen phosphate;

2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3 chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl} amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(ethyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;

2-[(1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl} amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperidin-2-yl]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;

30 [(2R)-1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl} amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl]methyl dihydrogen phosphate;

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- 2-[1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperidin-4-yl]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[ethyl(3-{[4-({6-[(3-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 5 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3,4-difluorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(isopropyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- (3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperidin-4-yl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 4-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}butyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 10 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(methyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- [1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperidin-2-yl]methyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 15 2-[(5-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}pentyl)(ethyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 4-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(ethyl)amino]butyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(methyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 20 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(isobutyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(cyclopropyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 25 [1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperidin-4-yl]methyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[4-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- [(2*S*)-1-(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl]methyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 30 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(cyclobutyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;

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- 2-[(3-{[4-({6-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(prop-2-yn-1-yl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[(3-{[4-({2-[(3-chloro-4-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(cyclohexyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 5 2-[(3-{[4-({2-[(3-chloro-4-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(ethyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 3-{[4-({2-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 1-[3-({4-[(2-({(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)amino)methyl}pyrimidin-5-yl)amino]-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl}oxy)propyl]piperidin-4-yl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 10 3-[(3-{[4-({2-[(3-chloro-4-fluorobenzoyl)oxy]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)amino]-3-methylbutyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 2-[(3-{[4-({2-[(3-chlorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy}propyl)(2,2-dimethylpropyl)amino]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- 15 [2-({[4-({2-[(3-chloro-4-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy)methyl}cyclopropyl)methyl dihydrogen phosphate; and
- 2-[4-({[4-({2-[(3-chloro-4-fluorobenzoyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl}amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl]oxy)methyl}piperidin-1-yl]ethyl dihydrogen phosphate;
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 20
11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of the preceding claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.
- 25 12. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10 in therapy.
13. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a disease where the inhibition of one or more Aurora kinase is beneficial.
- 30
14. Use according to claim 13 wherein Aurora kinase is Aurora-A kinase or Aurora-B kinase.

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15. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of hyperproliferative diseases such as cancer and in particular colorectal, breast, lung, prostate, pancreatic or bladder and renal cancer or leukemias or lymphomas.

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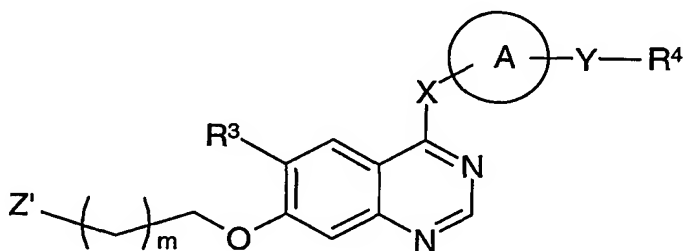
16. A method of treating a human suffering from a disease in which the inhibition of one or more Aurora kinases is beneficial to the treatment, comprising the steps of administering to a person in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10

17. A method of treating a human suffering from colorectal, breast, lung, prostate, pancreatic or bladder and renal cancer or leukemias or lymphomas, comprising the steps of administering to a person in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15

18. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which process comprises converting a compound of formula (II) into a compound of formula (I) by phosphorylation of an appropriate hydroxy group:



20

formula (II)

where A, X, m, Y, R³ and R⁴ are as defined for formula (I); and Z' is a group selected from -NR^{1'}R^{2'}, hydroxy, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl which C₃₋₆cycloalkyl is substituted by hydroxy or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by hydroxy, and a 4- to 7-membered ring linked via a carbon atom, containing a
 25 nitrogen atom and optionally containing a further nitrogen atom, which ring may be saturated, unsaturated or partially saturated and which ring is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by hydroxy or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by hydroxy and which ring is optionally further substituted on carbon or nitrogen by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkyl groups; R^{1'} is a group selected from-

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COR^{8'}, -CONR^{8'}R⁹ and C₁₋₆alkyl which C₁₋₆alkyl is substituted by hydroxy and optionally further substituted by 1 or 2 halo or methoxy groups; R^{2'} is a group selected from hydrogen, -COR¹⁰, -CONR¹⁰R¹¹ and C₁₋₆alkyl which C₁₋₆alkyl is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkoxy groups, -S(O)_pR¹¹ (where p is 0, 1 or 2) or hydroxy, or R^{2'} is a group selected
5 from C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkylC₁₋₄alkyl; or R^{1'} and R^{2'} together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 4- to 7- membered ring optionally containing a further nitrogen atom which ring may be saturated, unsaturated or partially saturated and which ring is substituted on carbon or nitrogen by a group selected from hydroxy and C₁₋₄alkyl which C₁₋₄alkyl is substituted by hydroxy or -NR^{8'}R⁹ and which
10 ring is optionally further substituted on carbon or nitrogen by 1, 2 or 3 halo or C₁₋₄alkyl groups; and where R^{8'} is C₁₋₄alkyl substituted by hydroxy and optionally further substituted by 1 or 2 halo or methoxy groups:
and thereafter if necessary:
i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I); and/or
15 ii) removing any protecting groups; and/or
iii) forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.